

CLAIMS

1. A method for switching data, in a switch, between
bitstreams of a circuit switched synchronous time divi-
5 sion multiplexing network, said method comprising the
steps of:

tagging data read from a time slot of a first bit-
stream of said bitstreams with an identifier; and

10 selecting, for each one of at least a second and a
third bitstream of said bitstreams, into which respective
time slot thereof to transmit said data based upon said
identifier.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, comprising trans-
15 ferring said data and said identifier within said switch
using time slots of a switch internal bitstream.

3. A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said data
is concatenated with said identifier.

20 4. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding
claims, wherein said identifier identifies a channel,
which is to be switched from said first bitstream to said
second and said third bitstream and which said data
25 refers to, and wherein said selecting step comprises
selecting a time slot of said second bitstream and a time
slot of said third bitstream based upon the channel
information provided by said identifier.

30 5. A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said
selecting step comprises selecting the next available
time slot of said channel on the respective bitstream of
said second and third bitstreams.

35 6. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding
claims, wherein said network is a DTM network.

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7. An apparatus for switching data between bit-streams of a circuit switched synchronous time division multiplexing network, comprising:

associating means (240, 242; 440, 442) for tagging
5 data read from a time slot of a first bitstream of said bitstreams with an identifier; and

selecting means (250, 251; 450, 451; 550) for
selecting, for each one of at least a second and a third
bitstream of said bitstreams, into which respective time
slot thereof to transmit said data based upon said
10 identifier.

8. An apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein said
associating means are provided at an port (225; 425) of
15 said switch, said port receiving said first bitstream.

9. An apparatus as claimed in claim 7 or 8, wherein
said selecting means are provided at a second port (230;
430) transmitting said second bitstream and at a third
20 port (231; 431) transmitting said third bitstream.

10. An apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 7-
9, wherein said data and said identifier are transferred
within said apparatus using time slots of a switch
25 internal bitstream (470).

11. An apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 7-
10, wherein said identifier identifies an isochronous
channel, which is to be switched from said first bit-
30 stream to said second and said third bitstream and which
said data refers to, and wherein said selecting means are
arranged to select a time slot of said second bitstream
and a time slot of said third bitstream based upon the
channel information provided by said identifier.

12. An apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 7-
11, wherein said network is a DTM network.